

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

### **Levels of Haloacetic Acids Above Drinking Water Standards for Whitestown South**

The water in our system recently exceeded a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers you have the right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct the situation.

*We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. The results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets EPA's health standards. The results that we received for Haloacetic Acids for the last monitoring period show that our system currently exceeds the standard(s), or Maximum Contaminant Levels(s) (MCL). The MCL for Haloacetic Acids is 60 ug/L. As of 3/31/2015, a locational running annual average (LRAA) of 64.3 ug/L, 6/30/15 a LRAA of 61.8 ug/L, 9/30/15 a LRAA of 83.7, 12/31/15 a LRAA of 86.7 ug/L and 3/31/2016 a LRAA of 72.5 ug/L.*

#### **What should I do?**

*You do not need to use an alternative (e.g. bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.*

#### **What does this mean?**

*Some people who drink trihalomethanes (THM) in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic acids (HAA) in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

#### **What Happened?**

HAA5's occur naturally when organic and inorganic materials in the water are chlorinated during the disinfection process. During the first sampling quarter of 2015, routine lab testing showed elevated levels of HAA5 at one of our two sampling sites, causing that site's HAA5 LRAA to be above the MCL drinking water standard. Continued elevated results in the second and third quarters of 2015 kept the LRAA above drinking water standards at one of our two monitoring sites. We evaluated our distribution system and started additional testing at our entry points to determine the source of the problem. Testing showed that we were receiving elevated levels of HAA5's from our water provider, Citizens Energy Group (CEG).

#### **What is being done?**

We have been in contact with CEG and they are aware of the problem. They are in the process of evaluating a new coagulant to help reduce naturally occurring organics in the water, a cause of HAA5's when the water is chlorinated. Whitestown Utility is also continually monitoring its distribution system and making adjustments and increased maintenance (i.e. varying water storage capacity based on current demands and additional flushing) to help reduce the increase of HAA5's after the drinking water enters our distribution system.

This problem has been resolved as the second quarter of 2016.

For more information, please contact our office at (317) 733-8584, or 6210 S CR 700 E Rm 600 Whitestown, IN 46075

*Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being sent to you by Whitestown South, PWSID# IN5206014